

# 2022-2023 Zero Waste Guide

## Curbside Recycling, Trash, and Yard Waste Program Rules

Place trash on the curb no later than 7:00 AM on your trash pickup day and not before 6:00 PM the day before your collection day. Any item left on the curb past 9:00 PM on the day after pickup is subject to fines. No container or bundle for collection may exceed 50 lbs.

**Recycling:** Weekly participation is mandatory and enforced. Do not remove empty recycling barrels, carts or bins before trash has been collected. There is no weekly limit for properly prepared recycling. Contaminated recycling will be left behind. Use [RecycleSmart.org](https://www.recycle-smart.org) for Massachusetts' recycling rules.

**Weekly Trash Limit:** Each household has a 100-gallon limit, or the equivalent of three 32-gallon trash barrels. While trash bags are allowable at the curb, trash in a covered barrel is more secure from wind and pests. Trash over the weekly limit and unacceptable material (read on) is the responsibility of the property owner to pay for its collection. Republic Services can provide a quote or dumpster rental. Dumpsters placed on the street require a permit from the Building Department, 781-316-3392.

**Weekly Unlimited Yard Waste Collection (seasonal):** Paper leaf bags and clearly marked barrels (use Town-provided "Yard Trimmings" sticker) are the only acceptable containers for yard waste. Plastic bags of yard waste cannot be collected as trash or as yard waste. More rules under the calendar on page 5.

**Burnable Bulk Trash Items:** One burnable item is accepted with curbside collection per household, per week, \*free of charge. Examples include \*mattresses/box springs (one set), wood bed frames, wood or plastic furniture, an area rug larger than 3'x5' or carpet (these need to be cut to 3' wide, rolled and tied/taped closed, max six 3' wide rolls, each roll under 50 lbs. 6 rolls allowed per week). Tires are not accepted as trash but can be recycled at local tire service stations for a fee, call ahead. Bulky rigid plastic items are recyclable at the Reuse & Recycling Center (optional). If you have an item not listed in this guide, please check the Town's website or call the Reuse & Recycling Center office to find out if your item is acceptable.

\* Notice: Mattresses and box springs will be recycled starting Nov. 1, 2022, per new state laws, and fees will apply.

**Metal Items:** Metal should not be placed on the curb per state waste ban laws. Scrap metal and propane tanks (up to 20 lbs. size) can be brought to the Reuse & Recycling Center by appointment. Contact Republic Services before putting these metal items on the curb (fees apply): metal bed frames, file cabinets, exercise equipment, piping/fencing, sports equipment, lawnmowers or snow blowers (fluids removed), grills.

**Some materials are not accepted as trash per state laws, such as construction and demolition debris and household hazardous waste.** Only allowable trash, known as "municipal solid waste," is collected by the Town's hauling contractor. Allowable municipal solid waste *excludes* materials covered by the MA Department of Environmental Protection Waste Bans, such as inherently dangerous, toxic, or hazardous wastes regulated by State and Federal authorities. Waste ban items also include televisions and CRTs, construction and demolition debris, metal, white goods (see "Appliances" below), auto parts, stumps (regardless of size), dirt, rocks, concrete, biological waste, ammunition, and explosives. Textiles and mattresses will be added to that list on Nov. 1, 2022. More at [mass.gov/guides/massdep-waste-disposal-bans](https://mass.gov/guides/massdep-waste-disposal-bans)

**Appliances (white goods):** Appliances must be collected at the curb, by appointment only, for recycling (\$20 per unit). Contact Republic Services to pay and schedule a Friday pickup. Examples include clothes washers, dryers, dishwashers, stoves, refrigerators, air conditioners, hot water heaters, and dehumidifiers. Call Republic at 781-289-0500.

**Large TVs:** \$38 or \$50 depending on size, contact Republic/JRM to pay and schedule appointments if you need these collected at the curb. Drop off options are less expensive, see page 4.

**Excess Trash (over the limit) and extra bulky trash items:** Please make arrangements with a private hauler and compare pricing. Hardware stores sell single-use soft-sided dumpsters, and regular dumpsters can be rented from private hauling companies.

# Curbside Program

**Three Trucks:** Three categories of materials are collected by three separate trucks: trash, recycling, and yard waste (seasonal). Keep all containers grouped together at the curb. The Town does not currently provide equipment.

**Trash:** While trash bags are accepted at the curb, residents are encouraged to use trash barrels with lids, per state public health regulations. Trash is limited to 100 gallons per week per household, and 32-35 gallon barrel size is advised. The maximum size for a trash cart is 64 gallons.

**Recycling:** The Town does not distribute recycling bins. When choosing your own bin or barrel, blue containers are the best choice, but if you reuse an existing container it must be clearly marked with a DPW "Recycling" bumper sticker. Please choose a recycling container that is large enough to accommodate your recycling and prevent it from blowing away. Unlimited amounts of recycling are accepted at the curb. Recycling must accompany trash at curb. To ensure trash is collected, do not remove empty recycling bins before trash has been collected. The maximum size for a recycling cart is 64 gallons.

**Single Stream Preparation:** All recyclables (cans, bottles, jars, tubs) must be rinsed free of all contaminants. Remove and discard all corks in trash. To recycle plastic bottle lids, remove some air from the container and then re-attach the lid. Do not place items in recycling that are smaller than a credit card because they cannot be sorted and recovered correctly. No black plastic, no cartons. Pizza boxes are recyclable.

**Yard Waste:** Must be in paper yard waste bags or in a reusable 32 gallon barrel with the DPW "Yard Trimmings" bumper sticker clearly visible. Tree branches must be 3 feet or shorter and under 1 inch thick. Branches may be bundled with compostable twine, and all items placed out must weigh less than 50 lbs. No stumps, rocks, soil, or root balls of any size will be collected.

**Free bumper stickers** are available at the DPW administrative office at 51 Grove Street, Shattucks Hardware Stores, Town Hall, and the Libraries.

YARD TRIMMINGS



RECYCLING



Learn more with the  
**Recyclopedia**  
search tool at  
[arlingtonma.gov/recycle](http://arlingtonma.gov/recycle)

## Metal



**Food and Beverage Cans**  
empty and rinse

## Plastic



**Bottles, Jars, Jugs and Tubs**  
empty and replace cap

## Glass



**Bottles and Jars**  
empty and rinse

## Paper & Cardboard



**Mixed Paper, Newspaper, Magazines, Boxes**  
empty and flatten

**NO!**



**Do Not Bag Recyclables**  
**No Garbage**



**No Plastic Bags or Plastic Wrap**  
(return to retail)



**No Food or Liquid**  
(empty all containers)



**No Clothing or Linens**  
(use donation programs)



**No Tangles**  
(no hoses, wires, chains or electronics)

## New This Year

### Town Welcomes a New Trash and Recycling Contractor

The Town of Arlington is pleased to welcome **Republic Services** as the Town's new recycling and trash contractor. Republic Services is a publicly traded national recycling and waste hauler with contracts in 47 states, serving 14 million customers, and operating 71 recycling processing facilities.



### Food Scrap Diversion Programs Continue, New Multifamily Option

If you're interested in participating in a curbside food scrap diversion option but live in an apartment building or condominium, the town is now offering large, 35 gallon locking containers for households to share. These larger bins can be serviced by one of the private subscription services already working in Arlington.



As well as private curbside subscriptions and backyard composting, residents are still welcome to drop off their food scraps to our FREE Feed FiDO program. Food scraps collected by any of these means are either composted into soil or anaerobically digested into gas/fuel. Check out our Food Scrap Diversion Programs page at [arlingtonma.gov/recycle](http://arlingtonma.gov/recycle).

### Mattresses and Textiles Require Recycling, starts Nov. 1, 2022

Arlington will begin working with HELPSY to collect textiles and clothing at the curb. This expands options for making sure that no textiles go in the trash. 95% of textiles can be reused or recycled into rags and insulation material. Curbside collection of textiles will be a free and optional service. Residents can continue to donate to their favorite charitable cause. Make a curbside collection appointment at [Helpsy.co](http://Helpsy.co)

Mattresses recycling is finally a thing! The wood, metal springs, foam, and fabric covering are separated from each other and recycled as four (at least) separate streams of raw materials ready for remanufacturing. Mattresses recycling will come with a cost and a vendor has not yet been selected. Stay tuned for full program details this fall.

### Swap Your Stuff

The Reuse & Recycling Center has set up a volunteer-run swap shed to facilitate the exchange of select used items in good condition. The service is free and is available for all Arlington residents.

The Shed hours depend on the season. For updates and future hours, check [arlingtonma.gov/recycle](http://arlingtonma.gov/recycle) and look for the Swap Shed page, and at A-Town Recycles on Facebook.



# Reuse & Recycling Center @ 33 Ryder Street

## Drop Off Harder-To-Recycle Materials

Appointment Required: [arlingtonma.gov/recycle](http://arlingtonma.gov/recycle) or 781-316-3108

Arlington residents only

## Weekday and Monthly Weekend Dates

**Electronic Waste**, fees for TVs and monitors (\$20) and laptops (\$5), everything else is free. Bring us your phones, cables, printers, stereo equipment, computer parts, and small kitchen appliances.

**Batteries**, rechargeable, lithium, ni-cad, lead acid (alkaline and button cell batteries go in trash)

**Scrap Metal**, such as pots/pans, shelving, grills, lawnmowers (no fluids), pipes, fence, and file cabinets

**Books** (but encyclopedias, old text books and moldy books go in the trash)

**Media**, professionally recorded CDs, DVDs and games (personal discs go in trash)

**Clothes, Shoes, & Textiles**, such as sheets and towels, must be dry, please place in a bag

**Fire Extinguishers**, \$5 if full, free if discharged and the top is removed

**Propane Tanks**, up to 20 lbs.

**Ink and Toner Cartridges**, also can be dropped off at office supply stores

**Packing Foam**, only clean, white, rigid packing foam that snaps when you bend it, like a cooler

**Bulky Rigid Plastic**, Large item, trash barrels, storage bins, and outdoor furniture, no small plastics

**Plastic Bags and Bubble Wrap**, clean and dry. Also drop off at local grocery stores for recycling.

## Special Events



### Secure Document Shredding, 9 AM to 12 PM

Arlington residents (free, 2 box max)

Arlington small businesses (pay \$5/box, 5 box max)

~ October 15, 2022

~ Fall event for Arlington Seniors

check the Council on Aging calendar for details

~ March 25, 2023

~ May 13, 2023



### Medical Sharps Disposal, 9 AM to 12 PM

~ August 13, 2022

~ November 5, 2022

~ February 5, 2023

Check out Zero Waste Arlington's new website

Find us on Facebook

Join the listserv or attend a meeting, all welcome

**ZERO WASTE**  
ARLINGTON

## Volunteer with the Reuse & Recycling Center!

~ *FixIt Clinic* Coaches

~ Event Volunteers

~ Insert your great idea here

for improving waste diversion in Town!

Call at 781-316-3108 to sign up





# 2022-2023 Collection Calendar



2022

JULY							AUGUST							SEPTEMBER							OCTOBER						
SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT	SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT	SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT	SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
						1 2	1	2	3	4	5	6			1	2	3										1
3	4	5	6	7	8	9	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
10	11	12	13	14	15	16	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	9	10	11	12	13	14	15
17	18	19	20	21	22	23	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	16	17	18	19	20	21	22
24	25	26	27	28	29	30	28	29	30	31				25	26	27	28	29	30		23	24	25	26	27	28	29
31																					30	31					

2022


NOVEMBER							DECEMBER						
SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT	SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
						1 2 3 4 5					1	2	3
6	7	8	9	10	11	12	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
13	14	15	16	17	18	19	11	12	13	14	15	16	17
20	21	22	23	24	25	26	18	19	20	21	22	23	24
27	28	29	30				25	26	27	28	29	30	31


2023


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2023


MARCH							APRIL							MAY							JUNE												
SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT	SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT	SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT	SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT						
			1	2	3	4							1													1	2	3					
5	6	7	8	9	10	11		2	3	4	5	6	7	8												4	5	6	7	8	9	10	
12	13	14	15	16	17	18		9	10	11	12	13	14	15													11	12	13	14	15	16	17
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26	27	28	29	30	31			23	24	25	26	27	28	29													25	26	27	28	29	30	
							30																										

 **Weekly Unlimited Yard Waste Collection** continues through Dec. 5-9, 2022, on your trash day, with a one day drop off at 33 Ryder St. on Sat. Dec. 17, 9 AM-12 PM. Curbside collection resumes the week of April 10, 2023. Yard waste must be in paper bags or barrels labeled with Town's "Yard Trimmings" bumper sticker—no plastic bags. Tree branches must be 3 feet or shorter and under 1 inch thick. Branches may be bundled with compostable twine and must weigh less than 50 lbs. No stumps, rocks, soil, or root balls of any size will be collected.

 **Christmas Tree Collection** the week of Jan. 3-7 and Jan. 9-13, 2023, on your trash day. No plastic bags, no yard waste. One day tree drop off at 33 Ryder St., Sat., Jan. 21, 9 AM-12 PM.

 **No Collection (State or Federal holiday)**  
Trash delayed one day the rest of the week.  
Friday collections are on Saturday.

 **Household Hazardous Waste**  
In Lexington, registration required, free, register at [arlingtonma.gov/hhw](http://arlingtonma.gov/hhw)

 **Arlington Reuse & Recycling Center**  
Appointment required. Collecting harder-to-recycle materials. Details and register at [arlingtonma.gov/recycle](http://arlingtonma.gov/recycle)

**Arlington Public Works Administration**  
51 Grove Street, 2nd Floor  
Hours: Monday - Friday, 8:00 AM- 4:00 PM

**Reuse & Recycling Center**  
33 Ryder Street  
by appointment: [arlingtonma.gov/recycle](http://arlingtonma.gov/recycle)  
or call  
**781-316-3108** for questions or information

**Contact Republic Services to**  
- Report missed collections  
- Schedule and pay for appliance collection

**781-289-0500** during business hours

or call the Reuse & Recycling Center office for assistance at **781-316-3108**

Receive holiday and recycling event reminders:  
[arlingtonma.gov/subscribe](http://arlingtonma.gov/subscribe)

# Drop Off, Donate, Borrow, Fix

There is no transfer station in Arlington. All material that is collected at the curb is taken directly out off Town. We offer drop off options for harder to recycle materials, host events for common categories of materials, and partner with local hardware stores. Also see Reuse & Recycling Center on p. 4.

**TV/Computer Monitors/CRTs:** Required to recycle, fee applies, see Reuse & Recycling Center, p. 4

**Electronic Waste (e-waste):** Optional to recycle. Make an appointment for the Reuse & Recycling Center to drop off these items for free. Please trash fans, humidifiers, and vacuum cleaners.

**Mercury:** Keep these items out of the trash: Batteries (lithium, rechargeable, lead acid, ni-cad, button-cell), thermometers, and thermostats. Make an appointment at the Reuse & Recycling Center for proper handling. Alkaline batteries go in the trash.

**Fluorescent Light Bulbs:** Never accepted as trash. Bring to Shattuck or Shattuck Heights hardware stores for proper disposal.

**Household Hazardous Waste (HHW):** Banned by state law from entering the municipal waste stream, HHW is collected eight times per year in Lexington. Registration is required and the dates are in this Guide on page 5. Free for Arlington residents. Details at [arlingtonma.gov/hhw](http://arlingtonma.gov/hhw)

**Paint:** Oil-based paints can only be disposed of at Household Hazardous Waste collections. Latex paint should be completely dried, open cans placed in an open box, then place that box next to your regular trash. Do not place these out on rainy days.

**Medications and Pill Bottles:** Unwanted medications can be dropped off 24 hours a day, 7 days per week in the medication disposal drop box at the Community Safety Building at 112 Mystic Street. Never flush medication down a drain. Empty prescription and over-the-counter medication bottles belong in the trash.

**Medical Sharps:** Not accepted as trash. Collected (in red Sharps containers) at specific Reuse & Recycling Center events., see dates on p.4 and on the Health Department web page. Call Board of Health with your questions: 781-316-3170.

## Consider Donation

**Second Chances** reuses and recycles clothing, shoes, and accessories so that homeless and lower-income people feel confident and valued as they take their first steps toward brighter futures and, as a community, we can minimize the amount of apparel going into local landfills.

**Boston Building Resources** helps people repair and improve their homes while also sparing the environment from needless waste.

**Household Goods, Inc.** provides a full range of donated furniture and household items, free of charge, to help people in need make a home.

Please check what types of materials and in what condition these partners are looking for before donating.



**HOUSEHOLD GOODS™**  
*Helping People Make a Home.*

**Borrow instead of Buy:** appliances, instruments, games, electronics and more at Robbins Library!

**Broken stuff getting you down?**

Get help from experienced coaches at a FixIt Clinic. Events coming this fall, winter, and spring.

